GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2813
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2017
Return of Indian Scientists
Kumar Shri Ashwini

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Scientists who have returned to work in India leaving reputed foreign institutions during each of the last three years;

(b) whether all such scientists have since been absorbed;

(c) whether the Government has initiated any scheme to lure more scientists by giving incentives to come and work in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDHARY)

(a) & (b): The number of Indian scientists who have returned to work in India leaving reputed foreign institutions during each of the last three years through various schemes initiated by the Government are as under:

Ramanujan Fellowship: 123 scientists returned to India in past three years and 52 scientists got absorbed. Year-wise details are as below:-

Year	Nos of Scientists returned to India in past three years (under Ramanujan Fellowship)	Nos of Scientists got absorbed
2014	40	17
2015	34	19
2016	49	16

Ramalingaswami re-entry Fellowship:109 scientists returned to India in past three years and 55 scientists got absorbed. Year-wise details are as below:-

Year	Nos of Scientists returned to India in past three years (under Ramalingaswamire-entry Fellowship)	Nos of Scientists got absorbed
2014	48	28
2015	32	15
2016	29	12

INSPIRE Faculty Scheme:141 scientists returned to India in past three years and 18 scientists got absorbed. Year-wise details are as below:-

Year	Nos of Scientists returned to India in past three years (under INSPIRE Program)	Nos of Scientists got absorbed
2014	40	14
2015	53	2
2016	48	2

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Government has initiated various schemes to attract more scientists to come and work in India. Department of Science and Technology (DST) through Ramanujan Fellowship and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) through Ramalingaswami re-entry Fellowship provides attractive avenue and opportunities to Indian Researchers of high calibre, who are residing in foreign, to work in Indian Institutes/Universities of their respective interest and domain. Under the Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Faculty Scheme of DST, young Indian citizens and people of Indian origin with PhD (in science, mathematics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine, and agriculture related subjects) from any recognized university in the world are offered contractual research positions in Indian Institutions / Universities to carry out independent research. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has a scheme to attract Scientists/ Technologists of Indian Origin (STIO) under which they are appointed at an identified CSIR

laboratory so as to nurture a research field in their area of expertise. The Ministry has ensured sufficient funds depending upon the availability of brilliant scientists and engineers from all over the world to take up scientific research positions in India.

Department of Science and Technology through SERB has launched a new scheme, named VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research Faculty Scheme). VAJRA scheme is a dedicated program exclusively for overseas scientists and academicians with emphasis on Non-resident Indians (NRI) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) / Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) to work as adjunct / visiting faculty for a specific period of time in Indian Public funded academic and research institutions.

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